

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the transmission and reception of electronic mail between computer servers over reliable byte-stream transports comprising the steps of:

a transmitter connecting to a receiver, the receiver sending a greeting to the transmitter, the transmitter replying to the receiver with a greeting and an envelope, the receiver replying to the transmitter with ~~the~~ an envelope status, the transmitter receiving the envelope status and sending a message, and the receiver receiving the message and replying with ~~the~~ a message status;

wherein said process is adapted for reducing a number of protocol round trips required between said transmitter and said receiver for delivering said message to said receiver.

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

the receiver receiving a complete message,
the receiver discarding records of the status of the previous message as being in transit[.]; and
the transmitter sending a new envelope without a greeting to the receiver.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the transmission and reception of electronic mail is carried over a S bit channel.

4. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the transmission and reception of electronic mail imposes no line-length limits on the messages.

5. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein duplicated messages are suppressed.

6. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein loop detection is implemented.

7. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein Carriage Returns and Line Feeds in a message body is not required.

8. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the transmission of data between transmitter and receiver is asynchronous.

9. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein if the transmitter detects loss of synchronization with the receiver, the transmitter will drop the connection with the receiver.

10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein if the receiver detects loss of synchronization with the transmitter, the receiver will drop the connection with the transmitter[[,]].

11. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the message is transmitted and received as raw unconverted data.

12. (New) A process for transmission and reception of electronic mail between a transmitter and a receiver, wherein the transmitter is adapted for performing a method comprising:

sending an envelope to the receiver;

receiving a previous message status associated with a previous message sent from the transmitter to the receiver;

processing the previous message status associated with the previous message transmitted from the transmitter to the receiver for determining whether to drop responsibility for the previous message;

receiving an envelope status from the receiver;

processing the envelope status in response to a determination that there is at least one additional message available for transmission from the transmitter to the receiver;

sending a current message to the receiver; and

receiving a current message status associated with the current message transmitted from the transmitter to the receiver.

13. (New) A process for transmission and reception of electronic mail between a transmitter and a receiver, wherein the receiver is adapted for performing a method comprising:

receiving and processing an envelope from the transmitter;

replying to the transmitter with an associated envelope status;

transmitting a previous message status towards the transmitter, wherein the previous message status is associated with a previous message received from the transmitter, wherein the previous message status is adapted for enabling the transmitter to determine whether to drop responsibility for the previous message;

receiving a current message from the transmitter in response to the processing of the envelope status, wherein the processing of the envelope status is performed in response to a determination that there is at least one additional message available for transmission to the receiver;

generating a current message status; and

transmitting the current message status towards the transmitter.